IN THE CLAIMS:

1-43. (cancelled)

44. (new)   A method for generating a separator sheet with a computer system and for printing of said separator sheet with a printer or copier, comprising the steps of:

a) in a separator sheet file configuration and formatting process

with aid of a first program module loaded into the computer system and comprising at least one graphical user interface, generating at least first data that contain at least information for formatting of elements of at least one separator sheet, said elements to be printed on a register tab and not a remainder of the separation sheet outside of the registered tab associated with the at least one separator sheet,

providing a remainder print data file for any print data for the remainder of the separation sheet outside of the register tab,

storing the first data in a formatting file which is separate from the remainder print data file,

generating and storing a third data in a tab data file which is separate from said formatting file and from said remainder print data file, said third data comprising data of the elements to be printed on the register tab;

b) in a separator sheet file generating process

processing the formatting file, the tab data file, and the remainder print data file with a second program module loaded into the computer system so that second data are automatically generated and stored in a separator sheet file; and

c) in a printing process

adding said second data of said separator sheet file to a print data stream for generation of a print image on the register tab, and

printing the one separator sheet with the print image by the printer or copier.

45. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the third data that contain data of the elements to be generated on the register tab are generated with aid of the first program module.

46. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the third data that contain data of the elements to be generated on the register tab are generated with aid of a third program module.

47. (new) A method according to claim 45 wherein the third data contain text data or data of graphic elements.

48. (new) A method according to claim 45 wherein the first data and the third data are processed for a first print job with aid of the second program module, the third data being associated with the first print job, and the first data and fourth data are processed for a second print job of the second program module, the fourth data being associated with the second print job.

49. (new) A method according to claim 48 wherein fifth data for generation of a further print image in at least one section of said remainder of the separator sheet outside of the register tab are processed by the second program module such that print data for generation of the further print image are added to the print data stream.

50. (new) A method according to claim 49 wherein the third, fourth, or fifth data can be selected via the first or second program module or can be generated with the help of the first or second program module.

51. (new) A method according to claim 49 wherein the fifth data are associated with a respective print job.

52 (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the first data contain at least information for arrangement of elements of a separator sheet set to be printed on register tabs of the set, and that with aid of the second program module the second data are generated via which print data for generation of respectively one print image on each register tab of the separator sheet set are added to the print data stream.

53. (new) A method according to claim 52 wherein the separator sheet set serves as a sorting aid for a loose-leaf system.

54. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the first program module is contained as a program element in a desktop publishing program module as one of the elements selected from the group consisting of a Java applet, plug-in program module, and a linked program element.

55. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein an assistant function with which all necessary information for generation of the first data can be activated in the first program module.

56. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein a view of the separator sheet with the register tab of the separator sheet is simulated and displayed with aid of the first program module.

57. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the first program module is executed by a first data processing system and the second program module is executed by a second data processing system.

58. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein the information for the formatting contains specifications regarding at least one of the elements selected from the group consisting of dimensions of the register tab, position of the register tab in a separator sheet set, paper format of the separator sheet, and alignment of the register tab.

59. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein a preview of a separator sheet with selected settings is possible in the first program module, whereby data with the settings as parameters are transferred to the second program module, the second program module transfers the generated second data to the first program module, and wherein with the first program module the second data are further processed into display data with aid of a program element.

60. (new) A method of claim 49 including the further steps of:

selecting a template for the separator sheet as said first data;

· text as said third data for the register tab is selected or loaded;

additional print data as said fifth data for output on said remainder of the separator sheet outside of the register tab is loaded; and

said additional print data as the fifth data is associated with the separator sheet.

61. (new) A method according to claim 44 wherein a file name of formatting file in which the first data are stored and a file name of the tab data file in which the

third data are stored, are specified as parameters in invocation of the second program module.

62. (new) A system for generating and printing a separator sheet, comprising:

a computer system for generating the separator sheet and a printer or copier for printing of said separator sheet;

a) for a separator sheet file configuration and formatting process, a first program module loaded into the computer system and comprising at least one graphical user interface, said first program module

generating at least first data that contain at least information for formatting of elements of at least one separator sheet, said elements to be printed on a register tab and not a remainder of the separation sheet outside of the registered tab associated with the at least one separator sheet,

providing a remainder print data file for any print data for the remainder of the separation sheet outside of the register tab,

storing the first data in a formatting file which is separate from the remainder print data file,

generating and storing a third data in a tab data file which is separate from said formatting file and from said remainder print data file, said third data comprising data of the elements to be printed on the register tab;

b) for a separator sheet file generating process, a second program module loaded into the computer system, the second program module

processing the formatting file, the tab data file, and the remainder print data file so that second data are automatically generated and stored in a separator sheet file; and

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said computer system adding said second data of said separator sheet file to a print data stream for generation of a print image on the register tab, and

the printer or copier printing the one separator sheet.